

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fax-aware telephone for handling facsimile transmissions over a computer network, comprising:
 - a facsimile processing unit for handling a facsimile call;
 - a voice processing unit, operably connected to the facsimile processing unit, for handling a voice call;
 - a memory unit, operably connected to said facsimile processing unit, for storing an incoming facsimile transmission; and
 - a file transfer protocol client for transferring said facsimile transmission to said computer network or an external storage device,

wherein said fax-aware telephone handles said facsimile call and said voice call together over a single data line from said computer network.
2. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a faxmail unit, operably connected to facsimile processing unit, for temporarily storing said incoming facsimile transmission prior to printing said transmission or storing said transmission in said memory unit.
3. The fax-aware telephone of claim 2, wherein said faxmail unit can send an alert signal to designate the reception of said incoming facsimile transmission.

4. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein said voice processing unit may send or receive a said voice call while said facsimile processing unit handles said fax call.
5. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein, if said incoming facsimile transmission is generated by an analog fax machine, said fax-aware telephone searches for a CNG tone in said incoming transmission and when said CNG tone is recognized, performs at least one of storing said incoming transmission in said memory unit or prints said incoming transmission.
6. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein when said incoming facsimile transmission is generated by a network aware facsimile device, said fax-aware telephone recognizes said incoming transmission and generates a CNG tone to alert a user.
7. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein said computer network transmits said fax call and said voice call using Internet protocol.
8. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, further comprising:
a printer driver for printing a fax transmission received by said fax-aware telephone.
9. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein said fax-aware telephone provides a hangover time during reception of a call, and
automatically receives said fax transmission into said memory unit after an incoming fax signal is detected during said hangover time.

10. The fax-aware telephone of claim 1, wherein said fax-aware telephone generates a signal for a user to distinguish an incoming call from a facsimile transmission.